

Mark 11:2

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

And saith unto them, Go your way into the village over against you: and as soon as ye be entered into it, ye shall find a colt tied, whereon never man sat; loose him, and bring him.

Analysis

Go your way into the village over against you: and as soon as ye be entered into it, ye shall find a colt tied, whereon never man sat (πῶλον δεδεμένον ἐφ' ὃν οὐδεὶς οὐπω ἀνθρώπων ἐκάθισεν)—Jesus demonstrates omniscience in knowing exactly where the colt is and that it has never been ridden. The detail that the animal was never ridden is significant: unblemished animals used for sacred purposes must be previously unused (Numbers 19:2; Deuteronomy 21:3). This young donkey, untrained and unbroken, miraculously submits to Jesus, foreshadowing creation's recognition of its Creator.

The command to **loose him, and bring him** shows Jesus' sovereign authority—He requisitions what He needs for messianic purposes. This isn't theft but divine prerogative. The Greek *pōlon* (πῶλον) means a young colt or foal, fulfilling Zechariah 9:9's prophecy that the Messiah would enter Jerusalem "lowly, and riding upon an ass, and upon a colt the foal of an ass." Where earthly kings rode warhorses, Israel's true King rides a humble donkey, signaling peace not military conquest.

Historical Context

The village was likely Bethphage, a small settlement on the Mount of Olives' eastern slope, less than a mile from Jerusalem. Jesus had stayed in nearby Bethany with Mary, Martha, and Lazarus during the days leading up to Passover. The

deliberate choice of a donkey rather than a horse fulfilled Zechariah 9:9 (written 500 BC), a prophecy every Jew knew pointed to the Messiah. Roman generals entered cities on warhorses in triumphal processions; Jesus' choice of a donkey was a counter-cultural statement about the nature of His kingdom. The requirement that the animal be previously unriden connects to Jewish purity laws for sacred use—the red heifer (Numbers 19:2) and cart carrying the ark (1 Samuel 6:7) had to be unused. This detail, preserved in all four Gospels, authenticates the historical precision of the account.

Related Passages

John 3:16 — God's love and salvation

Romans 10:9 — Confession and belief for salvation

Study Questions

1. How does Jesus' foreknowledge of the colt's exact location demonstrate His divine omniscience and sovereign control over His passion?
2. What does Jesus' choice of an unriden donkey rather than a warhorse reveal about the nature of His kingdom and mission?
3. In what ways does the fulfillment of Zechariah 9:9 challenge human expectations of how God's promised King would arrive?

Interlinear Text

καὶ	λέγει	αὐτὸν	ὑπάγετε	εἰς	τὴν	κώμην	τὴν
And	saith	him	Go your way	into	G3588	the village	G3588
G2532	G3004	G846	G5217	G1519		G2968	
κατέναντι	ὑμῶν	καὶ	εὐθὺς	εἰσπορευόμενοι	εἰς	αὐτὸν	
over against	you	And	as soon as	ye be entered	into	him	
G2713	G5216	G2532	G2112	G1531	G1519	G846	
εὕρησεν	πῶλον	δεδεμένον	ἐφ'	ὃν	οὐδεὶς	ἄνθρωπον	
ye shall find	a colt	tied	whereon	G3739	never	man	
G2147	G4454	G1210	G1909		G3762	G444	
κεκάθικεν	λύσαντες	αὐτὸν	ἀγάγετε				
sat	loose	him	and bring				
G2523	G3089	G846	G71				

From KJV Study • kjevstudy.org